MEETING LOG Products id UPHOLSTERED FURNITUS RETARY

1999 JUL 29 A 9: 49

Meeting Between: CPSC staff and members of the Business &

Institutional Furniture Manufacturers

Association (BIFMA)

Date of Meeting: March 9, 1999

Site of Meeting: Greensboro Marriott Hotel, Greensboro, NC

Meeting Topic: Annual Flammability Committee Meeting

Log Entry By: Dale R. Ray, EC

Project Mgr., Upholstered Furniture

Participants: BIFMA: Randy Ruster, Herman Miller Co,

Acting Subcommittee Chairman; and about

25 member company representatives

CPSC: Dale Ray, EC

Summary:

CPSC was invited to participate in the annual Flammability Subcommittee meeting of BIFMA, an association of commercial and contract furniture products. Most, but not all, of these firms' products are not intended for the residential market. The Subcommittee meeting was scheduled to coincide with the AFMA Flammability Workshop, held at the same location. Various furniture fire safety topics were discussed; CPSC was asked to update the BIFMA membership on CPSC standards development activities.

Mr. Ray presented a summary of the staff's activities since the Commission's March 2, 1998 decision to defer regulatory action and hold a public hearing on flame retardant chemicals. He also reiterated the staff's view that most commercial and contract upholstered furniture would not be subject to the staff's draft small open flame standard.

All of the BIFMA attendees also attended the March 9, 1999 AFMA Flammability Workshop, at which Mr. Ray gave a more expansive presentation on the agency's work on the upholstered furniture project.